

THE STORY

OF

Western Canada's Crop

FOR

1906

ANOTHER ABUNDANT YEAR

A Wheat crop of ninety million bushels, seventy million bushels of Oats, and seventeen million bushels of Barley means \$100,000,000 dollars as the value of the grain crop of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta this year.

Northwestern Manitoba.

Dauphin, Aug. 30.—The prospects for a heavy yield are very bright. The wheat stood very thickly in almost every field and there is little lodged grain. As regards average yield, farmers and grain men here seriously speak of over a 30-bushel average, but a safer calculation would be from 25 to 30 bushels per acre. Last year it was 27 bushels, and this crop is better. There is an increased acreage of from 10 to 15 per cent. Barley is a heavy crop, but was lodged badly in places. Oats are good. There are 43,510 acres in the district under cultivation, out of 245,553 acres of arable land. It is a liberal estimate to allow 30,000 acres for barley and oats. At an average of 25 bushels per acre, this would give a yield of 750,000 bushels for the district, and present prospects justify such an outlook.

Newdale, Aug. 30.—In this district the crops are in excellent condition. They are restricted to oats and barley, very little wheat being grown. The wheat is in fine condition. The heads are well filled and of good length. The yield will be about 22 bushels to the acre, although several farmers claim a greater turn out.

The oat crop acreage is very large, and is practically the crop of the district, although there is a considerable amount of barley. Oats are expected to average from 65 to 70 bushels per acre.

Barley will be a fine crop, being much more even than the oats. In this district the acreage has been increased this year about 5 per cent, and will be further increased next year, as much breaking is being done.

Grandview, Aug. 30.—Wheat generally is in a promising condition around this point. Low spots were light on account of too much rain and quite a percentage of the heads are small. There are many fields which show signs of a bumper yield. There is a big increase in acreage, about 20 per cent. At present the crop on the whole looks like an average of 22 bushels per acre.

Birtle, Aug. 30.—A drive of 18 miles through the heart of the wheat district of Birtle shows the crop to be in first-class condition. The earliest is in the district known as the Plain, some 9 miles south and west of the town; there it is not so heavy as nearer the town, but will run from 18 to 22 bushels per acre. On the heavier land, near the town and to the north and east, the crop has an abundance of straw and will produce a good yield—about 25 bushels per acre. The amount under crop this year will be from 5 to 10 per cent more than last year. The oat crop here was even and will run 60 bushels to the acre.

Gilbert Plains, Aug. 30.—Conditions on the Gilbert Plains are very bright. There is a splendid appearing crop on farm after farm. The grain stood as thick as possible. Farmers are very optimistic, some of them counting on an average of 30 bushels or over. Providing nothing of an adverse nature interferes the average cannot possibly go below 25 bushels to the acre.

Both barley and oats are a magnificent crop.

Last year, according to best sources of information, 400,000 bushels were grown in this district. With the increased acreage and the better crop prospects this year's total yield should be 500,000 for the district.

Binscarth, Aug. 30.—From six to ten miles in each direction from the

town the crop was harvested in first-class condition. The wheat will yield from 25 to 28 bushels to the acre on an average. On new land and summer fallow it is particularly heavy, showing a marked tendency to lodge in many fields. Last year 225,000 bushels were marketed here, and if the present favorable conditions continue the yield this year will easily reach 300,000 bushels.

Miniota, Man., Aug. 30.—I drove out toward Beulah this afternoon over the finest stretch of country I have ever seen since leaving Neepawa. Putting together my observations and reliable testimony, I expect 22 bushels of wheat, and an average in the district of 25.

Arrow River, Aug. 30.—The crop from the river bank eastward to Arrow River and even further is most satisfactory. The stacks show well everywhere, and threshing will soon begin. Southeast of Miniota the country is a good deal broken and more fit for stock than grain, but there is still a fair sprinkling of grain fields. Altogether, accepting the testimony of old timers, this season the crops tributary to this branch of the C. P. R. are quite up to the average of anything known in the last ten years.

Minnedosa, Man., Aug. 30.—A travelling correspondent says: "Last night I got the finest sample of growing wheat I have seen this year from a field near town, that has been cropped 26 years without manure. Other fields, both wheat and oats, show thick on the ground and well filled. Such wheat will go up to or over 40 bushels per acre. All crops on recently broken land are excellent, but the average will be much reduced by inferior lots all over. My estimate is 20 to 22 for wheat. Where scrub prevails the best outturn can only be No. 1 northern."

Central Manitoba.

McGregor, Aug. 30.—Wheat here is a good average crop.

Portage la Prairie, Aug. 30.—The railroad track is, as a rule, a misleading guide to the real quality of the crops of the district it traverses. There is nothing along the line from Brandon to Portage equal to what can be found a few miles away from it. The bulk of the best crops are usually 5 to 10 miles away from the track. All the way east to within a few miles of Portage, crops are nothing to boast of and there is about as much oats and barley as wheat. This year's crop on the best portion of the Plains is as good as it ever was. The sheaves are large and stocks pretty close together. North for ten miles there is scarcely an inferior crop. Very little is tangled, though some fields must be cut all one way. Land broken thirty-five years gives as good crops this year as any that have matured during the last twenty years. It is generally estimated the yield will be about eighteen bushels to the acre.

Brandon, Aug. 30.—Going back as far as Beresford southwest of Brandon, crops are barely up to the average of recent years. The same may be said of Kemnay, just because of the lack of rain in the growing season, as some of the land is only of ordinary quality. Eighteen bushels to the acre is a liberal estimate of the average wheat yield of the district.

Oakville, Aug. 30.—The weather is favorable and harvesting is finished. There will be an average yield of 25 bushels per acre.

North Norfolk, Aug. 30.—William Cairns, reeve of the municipality of North Norfolk, and a lumber merchant at McGregor, says:

"Our crop is not above the average and I should say that 18 bushels to the acre would be the average for the municipality. We had no drought during the season but we had no excess of rain."

Neepawa, Aug. 30.—North by Eden and Spring Hill and southwest in Glendale, and toward Brookdale, will have four or five bushels above the general average, which for the whole district should come pretty close to 18 bushels for wheat.

Southern Manitoba.

Cartwright, Aug. 30.—The wheat in the Cartwright district was a very uneven crop. Then, again, there are fields, particularly to the south and east of the town, that will be good for 25 bushels per acre. The general opinion of the farmers at Killarney fair, from all over this section, was that the wheat would not yield higher than 20 bushels per acre. This would include all of this portion of southwestern Manitoba east of Clearwater and south of the Glenboro branch.

From Cartwright east the crop was heavier, and around Crystal City and Pilot Mound there was a very heavy stand of all kinds of grain. This is by far the heaviest crop so far. An average of 25 bushels for wheat is predicted in the municipality of Lounse.

To sum up the situation: Townships 1, 2, and 3, in ranges 10, 11, 12, and 13, will average 25 bushels per acre for wheat; and townships 4 and 5 along the banks of the Pembina river will not exceed 20 bushels to the acre.

Carman, Aug. 30.—Wheat is the leading crop everywhere, and in this district it is very satisfactory. Some careful men say they never saw it better. The crop on light lands never was so good. Newer lands around Elm Creek show heavy straw growth, but all the way from Winnipeg to the Boyne valley the crop was well filled. Threshing returns from this section may be confidently expected to yield 25 bushels per acre in many places. The wheat from the foot of the mountain all the way into Miami is a good crop, and a very conservative estimate of the yield would be about 20 bushels. From Miami to Carman the wheat crop might be put at from 21 to 22 bushels per acre, although threshing returns may go higher, as the wheat is well headed.

Rathwell and Treherne, Aug. 30.—The general impression is that this year's crop will be above the average, and the acreage 10 per cent larger.

Belmont, Aug. 30.—Between Pilot Mound and Swan Lake much heavy wheat was grown along the route.

The increase in acreage in Swan Lake district is 15 per cent; average yield for wheat, 22 bushels to the acre. Oats are a heavy crop, and barley a good average.

Around Baldur large tracts have been broken during the summer, but there is not very much summer fallow. The wheat average for Belmont will not exceed twenty bushels per acre.

Glenboro, Aug. 30.—The crops were held up a little by drouth early in the season. Some fields will go 30 bushels to the acre. On stubble and badly farmed land the yield is lighter, and the average will be between 12 and 18 bushels. But as a whole the average is good.

Souris, Aug. 30.—From Glenboro to Stockton and thence to Carroll, the crops are light; wheat will not go more than from 10 to 15 bushels to the acre. From Carroll to Souris they are rather better.

Out towards Elgin there is a large area under wheat. The yield will run from 18 to 28 bushels to the acre, with an average well over 22. South of Souris several miles is a good all-round crop, but it is lighter north and west.

Killarney, Aug. 30.—Over 40 miles by rail on the Hartney branch of the Canadian Northern Railway there is a fine wheat growing district. The whole of the land in this district appears to be cultivated. Around Margaret, Fairfax, Minto, and Elgin the average will be 23 bushels per acre. Near Deloraine the wheat is heavier; the system followed by farmers in all of these districts is to summer fallow from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ of their whole acreage yearly.

The crop east of Deloraine was heavier than south or west, and it looks as if the best crop of wheat since 1895 will be threshed.

Around Whitewater a good heavy crop was grown.

To sum up the whole situation from Dunrea to Hartney and from Hartney to Killarney the average yield for the whole district may be put at 20 bushels to the acre.

Plum Coulee, Aug. 30.—On the reserve south of Winkler the wheat yield will not be any in excess of fifteen bushels per acre. The oats are not a heavy crop here, either. The barley however of which there is at least 10 per cent, is invariably good. North of Winkler, however, the wheats are better. In the neighborhood of 19 or 20 bushels to the acre will be a fair average of the Red River Valley.

Manitou, Aug. 30.—The crop from Carman south for about 6 or 8 miles is heavier than in the vicinity of Roland, but to take the whole district through from Carman to Morden it is well within the mark to say that it will average 20 bushels per acre. Morden will not have quite as heavy a yield as further north, but it is better than an average this year. The wheat is well filled, standing up well on a clean stiff straw. Farmers say the wheat did not fill right, but appearances do not bear out their contention. Thornhill district is in one of the richest parts of Manitoba. On every hand fine large residences and big barns all point to the wealth stored in the land.

Headingley, Aug. 30.—The best all-round crops harvested in the last decade is now ready for the thrasher. Some fields of barley will give a large yield. The wheat, of which there is a large acreage, is very fine, with well

filled heads of plump grain. The average yield expected is 20 to 35 bushels per acre. All cereals are extra good, and hay abundant. The pea vine, so esteemed by stockmen, is especially fine, and from 3 to 5 feet high.

Gretna, Aug. 30.—The yield of wheat here will be about 20 bushels per acre.

From Lowe Farm west to the foot of the mountain, a good, well headed, ripe crop was harvested. The bulk of this territory will produce about 20 bushels of No. 1 hard, or 1 northern wheat, per acre. After reaching the top of the mountain the crop, all the way from Altamont to Greenway, is somewhat heavier and also later. A farmer at Swan Lake says he has a field of between 40 and 50 acres sown broadcast to barley between the 18th and 20th of June. He contemplates a yield of between 50 and 60 bushels per acre.

Elkhorn, Aug. 30.—Crop conditions in this district are good. For many years this section has prided itself in the quality of grain grown, although the yields have not been as heavy as in other places. This year all samples examined have been of exceptional quality. The yield will average about 20 bushels per acre. There are some fields which will run slightly more, but for the average of the district 20 bushels is a conservative estimate.

The oat crop is fair, and will average about 45 bushels. No oats are grown for export.

Griswold, Aug. 30.—The yield of wheat will be about 15 bushels, which is a liberal estimate. Many fields will not run much more than 8 bushels, but, of course, there are many better.

The oat crop is not very good.

Virden, Aug. 30.—The wheat crop will be well up to the average. To the north and west the crops are in very fine condition, while to the east they are very poor. Immediately south of the town the grain is light, but gets much better as you go south, until when Pipestone is reached there is a nice crop. I should place the average at 18 bushels per acre for the district.

The oat crop is not up to the standard. The straw is lighter than usual. They should yield about 45 bushels.

Central Saskatchewan.

Lloydminster, Aug. 30.—The crops are excellent. The straw is strong and clean, and the heads generally of a fair size and well-filled. While many fields are likely to yield much better, perhaps 22 bushels per acre is a fair estimate for the district as a whole. Some of the farmers expect 40 bushels to the acre, but that is a before-threshing estimate. One of the best fields of wheat is on the farm of a Barr colonist; the colony will strike and make a success. Oats are like wheat, good or poor, according to cultivation. Some fields promise phenomenal yields.

Prince Albert, Aug. 30.—The crops everywhere are exceptionally good and no damage of any kind can be heard of anywhere. The growth of straw has been heavier than usual.

Vonda, Aug. 30.—The crops are in excellent condition and it is estimated that 400,000 bushels of wheat will be marketed at Vonda this year.

Humboldt, Aug. 30.—Threshing will be general in ten days. The increase in acreage is heavy, perhaps 100 per cent. The district is very young, but the outlook is for a total yield of 250,000 bushels.

The wheat kernels are plump and firm. At Wadena, Watson, Quill Lake and Muenster, conditions are practically similar, but the wheat areas are not so great. There is a vast amount of splendid arable land in the district as yet unbroken, only a very small percentage being tilled as yet. The district is evidently destined to become a great wheat centre. American farmers are making rapid progress.

More breaking is being done this year than ever before.

Marshall, Aug. 30.—The crop in this district was harvested in excellent condition.

Marshall is situated in the heart of the Britannia wheat district. The crops this year will show an increase of 200 per cent on last year's returns, and farmers have taken advantage of a good breaking season to prepare for a considerably increased acreage next year. The town is becoming the distributing centre of a large well settled district, ranging from the Battle River to miles north of Big Gully Creek, and is destined to become one of the chief wheat shipping centres of the Saskatchewan Valley.

Fielding, Aug. 30.—Threshing will commence in a few days. The dry weather of July has cut the average of wheat fully 5 bushels per acre between Warman and Battleford. The sale of harvesting machinery at this place has been large.

Battleford, Aug. 30.—At Battleford and on the west crops were better, in some places very heavy. Of course, even in the Battleford district poor cultivation was frequently found with consequent crop deterioration. The average for the whole line should be 18 or 19 bushels per acre.

There will be a big increase for next year, nearly double, in fact. The country is beautiful beyond expression, and has a wonderful future before it from a grain standpoint.

Abernethy, Aug. 30.—This is one of the finest growing districts in the West, and the crops are in very good condition. The winter wheat straw was bright and clean and not sufficiently rank to lodge. The heads are well-filled and of good length. The average yield per acre will be 25 bushels. Many of the fields will turn more, but there are some which will not, particularly where the land has been cropped 3 times in succession. Oats are not a good crop this year. They are very short, and in nearly all fields are ready for the binder. They should run about 45 bushels.

Southern Saskatchewan.

Saltcoats, Aug. 30.—The conditions met here justify the optimistic opinion held by all the district. The uniformity which exists at some points along the line is not so noticeable here. There are many fields which promise from 30 to 35 bushels to the acre; on the other hand, fields that have been sown on spring plowing, and those which are low, were thinner, and will not run more than 18 bushels per acre. Many farmers claim they had 38 bushels on acres last year, where the crop did not look as good as it does this season.

Last year 300,000 bushels were marketed here, and elevator and grain men are confident that the 400,000 mark will be easily reached this year, as the acreage has been greatly increased.

Regina, Aug. 30—A circuit of nearly 30 miles east and north of Indian Head shows thousands of acres of wheat that promise about 40 bushels per acre. Heads are large and well filled on fallow land. The stubble crop was much thinner and had shorter heads, but will yield over 20 bushels per acre, with an average yield all round of fully 30 bushels per acre. The crop in the district to the south is said to equal that north of the town. In localities northwest of the town, the crops are in excellent shape and promise a heavy yield.

Indian Head, Aug. 30—In the district south and east of Broadview, many fields on summer fallow and breaking will yield up to thirty bushels per acre, while there are fields which have been cropped for two or three years which are short and thin, not promising fifteen. The average yield will be over twenty bushels per acre.

At Grenfell the yield of wheat should run close to 25 bushels per acre. Last year nearly 500,000 bushels was marketed here, and there will be a large increase this year.

Grayson, Aug. 30—South and west from Yorkton for 12 or 15 miles the Hungarians have a large colony, they farm in an up-to-date manner, and will have yields similar to those in the other portions of the Yorkton District. In a distance of five or six miles on both sides of the line of the G. T. & P. Ry., which is now being graded through the District, the average yield will not be more than 15 bushels per acre.

To the south and west of Grayson the crops are particularly clean and well advanced. The average here will be about twenty bushels to the acre.

Broadview, Aug. 30—The soil is light, and the wheat is a nice even crop of from 15 to 20 bushels to the acre.

Milestone, Aug. 30—This is one of the newest towns—which is now an important shipping point, over half a million bushels of grain having been marketed here last year, of which 165,000 was wheat. The yield of wheat per acre last year for the district in which Milestone is included was 23 bushels to the acre, but it will not equal that average this year.

Yellowgrass, Aug. 30—Near Milestone there are some good fields of wheat, but for six miles east and south towards Lang, the fields are patchy, owing to excessive rain just after seeding, which killed off the wheat in low spots. There are fields that will yield under 15 bushels, and the average for the first ten miles passed would be under 20, bushels to the acre.

Langenburg, Aug. 30—The wheat is here in abundance and it will produce a bumper crop. Last year 300,000 bushels were shipped and this year dealers are talking confidently of 375,000 to 400,000 bushels, taking into consideration the increased acreage and the slightly better yield. Many farmers claim an average of 30 bushels to the acre, but 25 will be nearer the mark.

Kamsack, Aug. 30—A drive around the country here reveals that, in comparison with the vast amount of excellent land an exceedingly small portion is cultivated.

The crops throughout the District seem uniform in character and are very promising. The outlook is for an average of 25 bushels to the acre.

Esterhazy, Aug. 30—Crops are heavy and maturing rapidly. This is a mixed farming district with wheat as the most important crop. The yield of 1905 was about 20 bushels per acre and there will be some increase over this figure for 1906. A fair estimate is about 22 bushels, though some place it at 25. The latter figure is too high, although the crop is even. Barley is heavy in straw, lodged in some places and will yield about 50 bushels and oats considerably above this.

Weybur, Aug. 30—Some fields of wheat will go about 25 bushels to the acre. Some of the wheat shows bad cultivation. Last year 900,000 bushels were shipped from here; this year there will be about 1,100,000 bushels. Last year's average was 23.60. This year it will probably be about two or three bushels less.

Taking the "Soo" line as a whole the yield will be somewhat less than last year, but will average about 20 bushels per acre. The increased yield along the line will be about 20 per cent greater than last year, while the acreage is 30 per cent greater.

Lemberg, Aug. 30—The wheat crop is now attracting the eyes of the investors and land buyers. The crops never looked brighter and some reports say the yield will go 35 to 40 bushels to the acre.

Estevan, Aug. 30—East of the town about fourteen miles, the effects of the dry weather are plainly to be seen, the grain is patchy, uneven in length and in ripeness. There has been little rain since June, and the best of the wheat will not go over 20 bushels per acre and there are many fields that will not yield above 10; oats are short and late.

The farmers generally complain of gophers and, from observation along the railway, the above will apply to the greater part of the district for at least thirty miles northwest, including Halbrite and Macoun.

The average for wheat in this section will be about 13 bushels per acre.

Strassburg, Aug. 30—The weather during July did very material damage to the wheat in this district. Many careful farmers say that from 10 to 15 bushels per acre more would have easily resulted had there been a few showers then. There was every prospect for a bumper crop up to July 1, when nearly all the wheat was headed out. The average yield will be about 15 bushels for the district from Earl Grey, Bullea, and Strassburg. There are many fields which have been more carefully cultivated and are looking very well, and promise a 25-bushel yield. There are many, however, which will not run more than half that amount. The acreage has increased very largely. All year they were busy breaking, and this season there are from 75 to 120 acres in crop on each quarter-section.

Oats are very short in the straw, and where sown on this season's breaking, are practically a failure.

Lipton, Aug. 30—The crop in this district has been more fortunate than that further west. Local showers did much good during July, and prospects are good.

The yield this year will average about 20 bushels to the acre. The acreage has increased about 30 per cent and will be still further increased next season, as there has been much breaking done. Oats are a fair crop and should average 50 bushels to the acre.

In the Qu'Appelle valley an experiment was tried by Mr. J. A. MacDonald. He sowed a few acres of winter wheat and harvested it some time ago. The crop was quite a success.

Alameda, Aug. 30—The crops are fairly good, but not so heavy as last year. The yield this year will be between 17 and 18 bushels per acre, which is somewhat lower than last year.

The increase of acreage is about 10 per cent, which will bring this year's export crop to about the figures of last year. At Oxbow the crop conditions were very similar to those just described. There were shipped from Oxbow last year about 375,000 bushels of wheat. It will likely reach these figures this year.

Paynton, Aug. 30—In spite of the long drouth the crops around Paynton are looking splendid. The grain is well filled and bright. The average is estimated at 8,000, and in proportion to the acreage the crops this season will beat all previous years.

Midale, Aug. 30—The warm dry weather of July and first August brought on the grain very fast. While the yield will not be as great as last year, still there will be a good average crop. Some fields of wheat are extra fine and heavy, others are light. Late grain is not very good. The quality seems to promise now to be good.

Moose Jaw, Aug. 30—A correspondent says: "Crops on summer-fallow are all very heavy and down in places. Most of this should run 25 to 30 bushels per acre or even more. Some excellent fields of oats were seen which will run 75 to 90 bushels per acre. Reports of wheat running 25 bushels to the acre are common."

E. A. Partridge of Sinaluta, president of the Grain Growers' Grain Company, said he had traversed this country thoroughly the last few months, and it was his opinion, based upon observation, that too much had been said in the newspapers about "bumper crop." There seemed to be an evident design to get up a crop boom, and give the impression that there never was such a crop, and he was quite sure that the prospects were greatly exaggerated. There might be a fair average crop, but he was confident there would be nothing beyond that. There were many spots where the yield would be splendid, but, on the other hand, there were scores of districts where the yield would be but a poor average.

Melita, Aug. 30—The territory along the Estevan branch, Melita to Estevan, inclusive, will not give a yield equal to that of last year, although at some points there has been a favorable season with plenty of rain.

The shortage is due chiefly to want of sufficient rain when the grain was heading at the beginning of July. On light land, or where the crop has been carelessly put in, the shortage will be greatest. The western section has suffered most.

Taking into consideration damage from all sources, 15 bushels per acre may be a liberal estimate. On some well cultivated farms the yield will be above this. Even this may be a little high, if the weather of the past week has had the effect which I suspect.

Land which has been carefully tilled will give a satisfactory return, and at nearly every point along the central part of this section, at Alameda, Oxbow, and Carnduff, some excellent fields will be threshed. The carefully tilled summer fallows now being prepared for next year's crop tell the secret of success of those who can get a good yield in such a year as this. The crop is reported better south toward the boundary.

Davidson, Aug. 30—The wheat generally is good; and there is plenty of straw except in a few places. The heads are a good length, but in some cases not as well filled as could be wished. There are many fields which have the appearance of a yield of 30 to 35 bushels per acre at present, and others again will hardly go 20, some going 20 to 35. The average might be placed at 23 to 25 bushels. Oats are only a fair crop; there is some flax which looks very well.

Regina, Aug. 30—A correspondent says: I have covered Southeastern Saskatchewan as carefully as possible during a two weeks' trip, having travelled by railway about 600 miles, and through country surrounding points

reported from about 400 miles. Throughout the whole section all the crops are satisfactory, though the yield will not average as high as last year. At all points excepting one along the main line from Moosomin to Moose Jaw, the general opinion is that the present crop is more even, and will average better than any previous one, though individual heavy yields may not be so noticeable as in previous years. On the Soo line the average for wheat will be about 19 bushels, oats 30, and flax somewhat under 10. The increasing acreage will be about 25 per cent, and the increase of wheat shipments should reach 12 to 15 per cent above last year. Estevan to Melita will be somewhat short of last year, as there is not sufficient increase of acreage to make up for the lower yield.

The great increase will be along the Arcola line, where there is such a large increase of area under cultivation. Taking a general average of the reports, it is estimated the yield of wheat for Southeastern Saskatchewan will be a trifle under 20 bushels per acre. Oats will run about 35, flax 9, and barley 25.

The quality everywhere should be good except where late grain may have been shrunken from causes previously noted.

Antlers, Aug. 30.—In a drive of 14 miles not a poor field of wheat was seen. Some might go as low as 15 bushels per acre, but the greater part will go between that figure and 20, and some fields considerably more.

Arcola, Aug. 30.—The estimated average for last year was 25 bushels per acre. It will not quite come up to that figure this year, but with an increased acreage of about 20 per cent the shipments should be at least 100,000 bushels above last year.

Moosomin, Aug. 30.—The yield promises to be very heavy. The most serious drawback is the scarcity of harvest hands. As high as \$50 a month has been offered.

Qu'Appelle, Sask., Aug. 30.—The sample in all grains is excellent. In wheat the average yield will be about 20 bushels per acre, while oats will go from 50 to 60 bushels.

Rosthern, Aug. 30.—The crop is generally heavy, although on some old fields the wheat will not yield any more than 18 bushels per acre. The bulk of the crop, however, is much better. New land and summer fallow present an excellent appearance, promising heavy yields. It seems quite safe to estimate an average of 25 bushels per acre all round.

Saskatoon, Aug. 30.—Crops here run through the whole scale of light, medium, and heavy. In an extensive drive westward, some fields will probably yield 35 bushels per acre. In these fields the heads were long and well filled, and the straw beautifully clean. Other fields were lighter probably about 20 to 25 bushels per acre, and I saw some fields that would scarcely yield 10 per acre.

The average for the district should be from 20 to 22 bushels. The reason for the lack of uniformity in the crop is found in the fact that new land and summer fallows have done extra well. I have seen fields here fully equal to the best seen anywhere. On the other hand, a dry spell in summer affected grain on old land, where only a light to medium crop has been produced. The very meager yields of a few other fields is due to improper tillage such as disking in the grain on stubble.

Hilton, Aug. 30.—The wheat crop will average about 15 bushels, oats 40, barley 30. The dry spell in the later part of July cut down the yield about 5 bushels per acre.

Central Alberta.

Vegreville, Aug. 30.—There is quite an extensive area of land under crops tributary to this point. The district is very extensive, ranging 50 miles to the north and perhaps 50 to the southeast, and there are also other large tributary areas. There are a large number of excellent wheat fields.

Most of the wheat heads in a handful plucked at random are six-rowed, containing 32 and upwards plump kernels. People here are free in estimating an average of over 30 bushels per acre. It is safe to say that the crop will average 25. There are many fields that will beat this easily.

There has been considerable increase of acreage since last year, and breaking has been the order of the day this season. The crop area will be double probably next year. The oat crop is quite good. In some places it is heavy and in others somewhat lighter. The oat crop area is larger than that devoted to wheat. Barley is also a good crop. A little damage to the oats is reported from about 30 miles south, caused by intense heat following heavy rains and affecting the lower husks.

Edmonton, Aug. 30.—The crop area from Millet to Edmonton, and then along the C. N. R. to Fort Saskatchewan, totals about 60,000 acres. Of this area only 12,000 acres are under spring wheat and there are about 200 acres of winter wheat. In the St. Albert and Stony Plain districts there are about 33,000 acres in crop, nearly 10,000 being under spring wheat and about 500 under winter wheat. The average which is looked for by the department for the entire territory referred to is approximately 21 bushels per acre for spring and 20 for winter wheat.

At this date the crop looks to be good for 21 or 22 bushels per acre on the average. Some of the winter wheat fields look good for 25 bushels per acre, and some of the spring wheat fields will yield 35 bushels to the acre and over.

The season in this District has been a very peculiar one. The crop was put in somewhat later than usual, but owing to the very hot summer it is ripening earlier than in former years. It would be strange with such rapid growth on maturity, the head should be found as well filled as in other years. There seems little reason for fear in this respect around Edmonton. In the Victoria district the average will be nearly 24 bushels per acre. The acreage of oats through the whole territory is very large, and with the Victoria district the whole yield of this cereal will run close to 4,000,000 bushels. Barley promises to be a fair crop, also averaging about 30, but such cannot be taken as an average.

With regard to conditions along the C. N. R. main line, the outlook is very promising. The estimate may be placed at 22 to 24 bushels to the acre.

Vermilion, Aug. 30.—The crop conditions are all that could be wished for. Vermilion is the newest district along the line and necessarily much of the grain is on spring breaking.

RUSHING LABOURERS FORWARD.

A press despatch dated Winnipeg, Aug. 13, says.

The scarcity of farm labourers, particularly in Southern Manitoba, is urgently felt. In Red River valley hundreds of acres are lying unshocked in the fields. Railways and officials are rushing labourers forward with the greatest expedition as soon as they arrive. The average yield of wheat in Southern Manitoba, from Carman to Morden, where no damage of any kind has been suffered, is estimated at 23 bushels per acre, while the average for the entire system of the Canadian Northern Railway, from Portage la Prairie to Edmonton, is placed at 19 bushels. Of course, some sections are greatly in excess of that, but the crop is uneven in the new country.

Winnipeg, Aug. 12.—The general consensus of opinion as to the yield seems to be that it will average about the same as last year, although the increase in the area under crop will considerably enlarge the aggregate. The crop seems to be uneven, according to the rainfall, some districts being uniformly excellent, while in others the yield will fall as low as fifteen to eighteen bushels.

FIRST NEW WHEAT SHIPMENT ARRIVES.

Winnipeg, August 14.—The first shipment of wheat from the 1906 crop has been received by the Lake of the Woods Company. It comes from Plum Coulee, on the Mennonite Reserve. The wheat was cut last Friday and was threshed Wednesday last. The sample is an excellent one, being clean and hard. It will scarcely grade one hard, but it is an excellent one northern. When one comes to think of it, it is a pretty fine record for a country to produce wheat within much less than ninety days from the sowing.

Winter Wheat in Northwestern Manitoba.

Great Success in Experiment—Sown in September, Harvested in July.

Experiments in the cultivation of winter wheat in the Swan River valley have proven very successful. Last year Mr. Geo. H. Shaw, traffic manager of the Canadian Northern railway imported two car loads of turkey red hard winter wheat from Kansas and distributed it among the farmers in the Swan River valley for the purpose of ascertaining the suitability of this kind of grain for these latitudes. The farmers of the district readily fell in with the proposal and sowed the grain at different periods of the fall season. The first report received comes from Minitonas accompanied by a magnificent sample of the wheat.

Mr. P. Haggerty who lives on Sec. 27, Tp. 35, Rge. 26 west of the first p. m. sowed six acres on new breaking that had been plowed twice, planting one and a quarter bushels per acre. The seed was put in on the 6th of September and the crop was cut on July 28, and careful measurements from the threshing machine showed the yield to be 40 bushels per acre. The parent seed, of which Mr. Shaw kept samples, is lean and dull looking while the grain produced from it 276 miles north of Winnipeg is plump, and solid. Mr. Shaw exhibited the grain on the grain exchange this morning and it provoked highly favorable comment.